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Director's Rule #1-2012

Agency: City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods	Page 1 of 2	Supersedes: N/A
	Publication: 10/12/12	Effective: For Plot fees covering 2013-14
Subject: Setting Department of Neighborhoods P-Patch plot fees for 2013-14 Gardening Season	Code and Section Reference: SMC 3.35.060	
	Type of Rule: Code Implementation	
	Ordinance Authority: SMC 3.35.060	
Index: Neighborhoods, P-Patch plot fees SMC Section 3.35.060	Approved _____ Date _____	
	Bernie Matsuno, Director Department of Neighborhoods	

BACKGROUND:

Seattle Municipal Code Section 3.35.060 authorizes the Director of the Department of Neighborhoods to adjust base P-Patch plot fees for inflation approximately in proportion to the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) All Urban Consumers every two years and to increase the base fees by no more than an additional 5% to accommodate increased operational costs. The next adjustment will apply to 2013 and 2014. Plot fees include a base application fee, which applies to any size plot, and a base permit fee for each standard unit of a plot. A standard unit generally equals one hundred square feet. For 2011-12 the base application fee was \$25.15, and the base permit fee was \$11.98 (rounded to \$25 and \$12 respectively). To calculate new plot fees, the unrounded 2011-12 fees were multiplied by 3%, the increase in the CPI for the Seattle during 2010-2011, the previous two years for which CPI figures were available. As a result the 2012-13 base application fee will be \$26.00 and the base permit fee \$12.00. The expected revenue effect of the plot fee increase is approximately \$2,500 per year.

METHODOLOGY

Plot fees for 2013-14 are based on changes in consumer prices during the previous two year period for which actual data is available. The CPI change was 3 percent for the period 2010 to 2011. To calculate 2013-14 plot fees, the following method was used: The unrounded 2011-12 base application fee was multiplied by the the CPI increase ($\$25.15 \times 3\%$, which equals \$25.90, and was rounded up to \$26. To calculate the new base permit fee, the 2011-12 un-rounded base permit fee was multiplied by the CPI increase ($\$11.98 \times 3\%$), which equals \$12.34, and rounds down to \$12.00.

RULE

For permits covering all or part of calendar year 2013 or 2014, the base application fee under SMC Section 3.35.060 shall be Twenty-six Dollars (\$26) per year for any size plot, and the base permit fee shall be Twelve Dollars (\$12) per year for each standard unit or any part of a standard unit. The same fees shall apply to later years unless modified by rule or ordinance.